

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A drive controller for a self-commutated converter having two half-bridges with converter valves, includes two control circuits, with each control circuit associated with a corresponding half-bridge and operatively connected with the converter valves of that half-bridge, and at least two switches, wherein an input of each switch is directly or indirectly connected to an external voltage, and an output of each switch is directly or indirectly connected to a pulse-inhibiting path. Further provided are at least two pulse-inhibiting controllers, wherein each switch receives control signals from a corresponding one of the pulse-inhibiting controllers. Arranged in the pulse-inhibiting path is a buffer unit for briefly maintaining a supply voltage of the control circuits if a pulse-inhibiting path electrically disconnects at least one of the control circuits from the external voltage. Thus, the drive controller, and more particularly its pulse-inhibiting paths, can be tested cyclically without interrupting the operation of the drive controller.